"'The Barrets of Wimpole Street' with Norma Shearer and Charles Laughton Sounds Great"

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 25, No. 46 TORONTO 2, CANADA March 10th, 1934

CREAM OF TODAY'S NEWS!

1— **"CAT AND THE FIDDLE"** opens to packed houses. (*Novarro and Jeanette MacDonald's love songs captivate audiences.*)

2— **"MYSTERY OF MR. X"** rated swell entertainment at New York preview. (*Bob Montgomery's handsomest starring role in years!*)

3— **GARBO** in "Secret Loves of QUEEN CHRISTINA" continues happy box-office career.

4— **M-G-M** execs in California get first glimpse of SHEARER in "Rip-Tide". Oh boy! Just wait!

5— **VIVA VILLA! VIVA VILLA! VIVA VILLA!** That's what the whole world will be shouting. (*And Wallace Beery tops his best in it!*)

(see Inside Cover)

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CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

Wallace BEERY

The screen which has waited ten years for a picture to equal the thrill, the epic humanity of "The Big Parade" now welcomes "VIVA VILLA." Because in its 1001 nights of amazing, romantic adventure...in its story of riotous revolution and revelry...in its blood-tingling heroism is entertainment that will pack the theatres of the nation!

"VIVA VILLA!"

An all-star cast with thousands of others
in METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER'S Giant of Screen Triumphs!

Produced by DAVID O. SELZNICK

Directed by JACK CONWAY

THIS M-G-M AD is telling 27,000,000 motion picture fans about it!

Toronto Presents Series Big Pictures—"Queen of Sweden," "Nana," and "Catherine the Great"

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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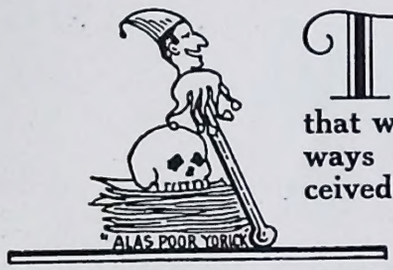
ANNA STEN



THE stage as well as the screen glorified woman in that women stars, being always most profitable, received their place, a most prominent one in the Spotlight of Stars.

Anna Sten, Samuel Goldwyn's new star, of Russian ancestry, makes her Canadian bow at Loew's, Toronto, and now we know the reason for the glamorous advertisements that have heralded her appearance here.

The intangible, illusory quality, finer than cob-web and yet sufficiently strong enough to ensnare, is to be found in the beauty of Anna Sten.

If you search the galleries of the Old Masters you will find in many of the Madonnas and the Magdalenes Anna Sten's type. But to be beautiful upon the screen is not sufficient, one must have an ability to-day which measures up to that beauty with which one has been born; and it is in the beauty of Anna Sten's "Nana" that you come away fascinated, bewitched, inspired to exclaim, "Samuel Goldwyn is right again."

ELIZABETH BERGNER

ANOTHER beautiful woman and brilliant artist makes her bow to Toronto's picture patronage. Elizabeth Bergner in that magnificent Korda-Regal production, "Catherine the Great". If this picture was not so regally mounted, so masterfully directed, so well-cast, so interesting in its story, it would still be a great picture because of the greatness of the histrionic ability of Elizabeth Bergner.

The Hitlerites have banned "Catherine the Great" from the screens of Germany. They hooted pictures of Elizabeth Bergner, declaring that they wanted no "Jew Pictures".

Elizabeth Bergner must feel exalted to find herself in the exiled company of some of the greatest of Germany's artists, philosophers, scientists and artisans, men and women who will add a lustre to the countries in which they will make their home. Elizabeth Bergner must feel even a greater exaltation when she knows that The Hitlerites have also denied Jesus, His Disciples, the Prophets of the Old and New Testament, they have pilloried Civilization and now begins the worship in Germany of Mars, the God of War, of Degeneration and Devolution.

"Catherine the Great" is at the Uptown, Toronto, packing the theatre for its opening performance.

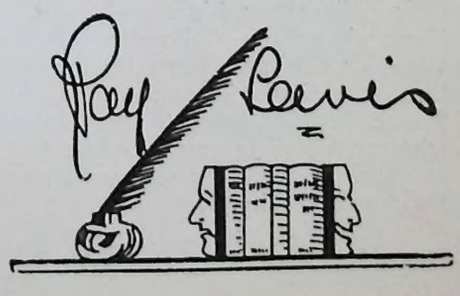
"THE QUEEN OF SHEBA"

YOUR editor has in her series of Sunday Radio Talks, on "Famous Women in Bible History", over Station CKCL, Toronto, presented "The Queen of Sheba" for the last few Sundays, at 1.15 p.m.

Last Sunday, Mrs. Joshua Smith (Ray Lewis) by many references to prophets in the Bible and Books of the Bible endeavoured to prove that "The Queen of Sheba" was no creature of the imagination, that she and her city existed historically.

This week two French explorers have found the City of Sheba with twenty temples still standing. The city is not far from the Persian Gulf, in the Southern part of the Arabian desert.

Now that Greta Garbo has given us "The Queen of Sweden", it would be fascinating to see her as "The Queen of Sheba". It is an idea and suggestion which your editor gives to Leo, the Lion, and although there is no copyright on "The Queen of Sheba", priority is in itself a common law statute in the realm of literature; and since no moving picture has in any public way made known its intention to produce "The Queen of Sheba", the idea is your editor's and it is given to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.



RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

WARNER BROS. are to include six British films in the Warner 1934-35 line-up it is reported. Irving Asher, head of the Warner-First National Teddington English Studios will make a selection of at least six stories for British production, which will have an appeal for the U.S. market also.

In the past two years, Warner Bros. have made a number of British films, but the appeal of these has largely been concentrated in Great Britain. With the ever-increasing market for British films, and the favorable public reaction to quality British films, the policy of this company appears to be in line with progressive business methods.

It is reported that the Motion Picture theatres distribute passes as their contribution to Unemployment Relief. Recently the matter of these passes came up for discussion by members of the Toronto City Council, since a report was current that these passes intended for the Unemployed did not reach those for whom they were intended. Some of the Aldermen stated that business men were driving up to the theatres in their own cars, and using these passes. A suggestion was made that these theatre passes be distributed through the City's Welfare Department.

IF the admonition of "Cast Your Bread Upon the Waters", has any significance to those who cast their bread, the inference meaning that your "bread" will return to you, the theatre-owner should be left in the position of having the benefits of such a possible return.

The theatre-owner knows best through which source he can best distribute his charity, either by way of passes to his theatre, or other forms of community service. There are church organizations, neighborhood organizations in each ward of the city. These organizations know those who are on Relief. The theatre-owner who has been in a district for several years also knows his own patrons. He knows who has stopped coming to his theatre because that person has lost his job.

The theatre-owner should endeavor to remember first those who once were paid patrons of his theatre, and who have come upon hard times, but in better times will be paying patrons again.

There was a time when politicians bought votes for their political machines and candidates by handing out "bum cigars" or "schooners of beer". Passes can be used for the same purpose; and aside from this angle, the contention of members of the City Council that "passes" are not going to the "Unemployed", but to those who can afford to pay for their Entertainment, leads me to conclude that theatre-owners should personally direct their own charity.

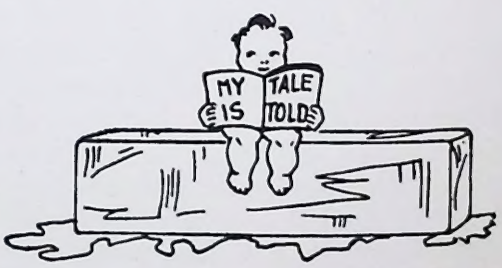
Sometime ago I reviewed "Moulin Rouge", the Twentieth Century United Artists release with Constance Bennett. Miss Bennett does better work in "Moulin Rouge", than she has done for some time, because in this picture she has a real part. The setting is Paris, there is an excellent cast, including Tullio Carminati, and Franchot Tone, the Boswell Sisters and Russ Columbo.

WHEN Samuel Goldwyn discovers a star the world knows about it; and Samuel who knows the art of prophecy immediately raises his voice and proclaims his star a comet. Samuel is the closest showman to Barnum that I know of, in that none can ever say that Samuel's comets are not stars. He is responsible for a number of women-stars in particular who are gloriously appealing because of their physical charms and who have ability.

When Barnum said that Jenny Lind was the greatest singer in the world, "those who came to scoff remained to pray". Jenny Lind was beautiful, Jenny had charm, style, Jenny had a voice. To listen to her I am told, was as fascinating as listening to a nightingale, in fact Barnum called her "The Swedish Nightingale".

Samuel Goldwyn follows the same manner of showmanship; he has presented Anna Sten in "Nana" to an expectant public as the most fascinating of women, physically and in her Art. You will agree with me, that Samuel knows his women-stars.

Toronto put on one of the greatest shows in the world, if one might be permitted to call a Centennial Celebration a show. It happened on the night of March 6th, at 11.30 p.m., when Toronto became one hundred years old as a city. The ceremony was an inspiring one, presented at the Coliseum, Exhibition Grounds. It opened with a prayer by the Rev. Canon Cody, President of the University of Toronto; and then was followed by a choir of voices, singing Handel's "Messiah", "The Hallelujah Chorus" and other choruses. It was beautifully and fittingly done. His worship, Mayor Stewart, the Board of Control and City Council, together with all who were responsible for this opening ceremony, are to be congratulated on their vision, good taste and the dignity of this occasion.



Maurice Schwartz Presented "Yoshe Kalbe," Royal Alexandra, Toronto. Acclaimed by Press as Masterpiece

Watch ANNA STEN!

Watch ANNA STEN!

In

NEW YORK!

at the RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL *and*

In

CHICAGO!

at the UNITED ARTISTS THEATRE

the same thing happened!

ANNA STEN

in SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S *Production of*

Nana

Opened to the largest crowds in the history of both theatres!

In both cities

BUSINESS THE SECOND DAY WAS BIGGER THAN THE FIRST!

and

BUSINESS THE THIRD DAY WAS BIGGER THAN THE SECOND!

Released thru

UNITED ARTISTS

Watch ANNA STEN!

Watch ANNA STEN!

Fairweather in St. John

There is much talk in Saint John over the theatre situation and, while many are the suppositions about the promoters of the new theatre, no one seems to know definitely as yet who is really back of the project. The Saint John Amusement Company, however, have leased the Council Chamber Building which is really a part of the Knights of Columbus Hall or rather an addition built some years ago to that building. It is announced by Paul C. Quinn, solicitor for the Amusement Company, that a theatre will be opened here about September 1st.

Plans for the altering of the Council Chamber have not as yet been made public but it is stated that arrangements are being made to seat 900 people. The building was used by the Knights of Columbus as a meeting place for the local council of their Order, and many public entertainments have been held in it.

The property is situated on Coburg Street, just up the hill from Union Street, and within one block of the Rialto Theatre. The Strand Theatre is a little over three blocks away, with the Capitol just across the side of the Square from the Strand. Down one long block of Union Street and a block and a half along Waterloo is the Mayfair, so it will seem that the centre of the business section of Saint John will be well served with motion picture houses.

My reason for including the Rialto, which has been closed for many months, is that an announcement has been made recently that this theatre will re-open in the Spring. It is stated that the Rialto will have a programme of musical comedy and feature motion pictures. The musical comedy companies are to be changed every two weeks, and it is quite likely that vaudeville acts will be included in the programme.

St. John on Movie Map

Saint John is certainly on the Movie Map as its harbour has been "shot" from every angle recently. Lucien Roy and Arnold Hague of the Associated Screen News came down here from Montreal to take sound films and they did it—800 feet of it.

The occasion was the opening of the new Navy Island quays, Saint John's new Port Unit which was officially opened recently, in the presence of Premier Bennett and some 300 guests. The work cost in the vicinity of $10,500,000 and took six years to complete.

The camera men went about the harbour in a tug and an announcer accompanied them. They made a tour of the docks and harbour facilities, later on taking shots of the luncheon party on board the Duchess of York. Premier R. B. Bennett shaking hands with Mr. Harold Schofield, chairman of the Saint John Harbour Commission, was an especially interesting subject, and Mr. Bennett delivered a brief address to accompany the picture.

B. E. Norris, President of the Associated Screen News, was in Saint John for the event.

Passes for the Sightless

Warm commendation was expressed for kindness shown the sightless at the annual meeting of the Saint John Women's Auxiliary of the Maritime Division of the Canadian Institute for the Blind. Weekly passes are issued by a motion picture company, and Mr. F. G. Spencer gives annual passes. Blind people in Saint John had used 143 passes since these gracious acts have been in force, it was said and much pleasure has been given to the recipients.

Delegation on Behalf of Musicians Calls on Attorney-General Sloan

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

Attorney-General Sloan received a delegation, March 3, from the organized musicians of British Columbia, former members of theatre orchestras five years ago, who submitted proposed changes in the law as it now stands so as to render possible the employment of musicians in premises, hotels and cafes, where at present such employment is prohibited.

Howard Coulter, solicitor for the musicians, and Edward Jamieson, secretary, stressed the fact that musicians as a class have become increasingly unemployed during the last few years due to the popularity of talking pictures and the "canned" music which accompanies the "talkies". Musicians are idle, they said, not only as a result of the depression itself but because of the gradual substitution of machine-made music in places which formerly were sources of employment to the musical profession.

Mr. Jamieson presented a statistical survey covering employment of musicians in the city of Vancouver, B.C., from 1927 to the present time which disclosed the fact that while in 1927 the city of Vancouver alone expended well over $500,000 in wages to its musicians, the same wages in 1933 had shrunk to $97,000. These figures formed the basis for the statement to the Attorney-General that only ten per cent of the professional musicians in Vancouver were employed in 1933 as compared with seventy-five per cent in 1927.

Referring to previous delegations from various hotel and restaurant organizations which had interviewed the Attorney-General, Mr. Jamieson stated that this delegation of the musicians was the first to speak on behalf of those who, in the event of a change in the law, may be employed in hotels and restaurants.

"We are not concerned," said Mr. Jamieson, "as to what changes the government may make in the liquor act to satisfy hotel and restaurant owners in their efforts to compete with our neighbors in the United States for tourist trade, just so long as these changes will include the opportunity of employment for musicians wherever beer and light wines are served."

Fashions of 1934

A forecast of the styles for the coming year were displayed in the moving picture, "Fashions for 1934" shown at the Film Exchange, Winnipeg, recently.

The latest in evening gowns, afternoon dresses, suits, coats, hats and furs, was gorgeously displayed in this picture. Suits, trimmed with fur, were shown with smart, close-fitting "off the face hats" or perky berets, worn well over one eye. The evening gowns displayed were made on long moulded lines and the floor length skirts formed short trains at the back, on some of the models worn. The pictures also showed how the styles in women's clothes repeat themselves, and it traces the present day fashion back many years.

The moving picture "Fashions for 1934" will be shown at the Garrick Theatre in Winnipeg soon.

Representaties of the moving picture theatres are satisfied to have a by-law prohibiting midnight frolics starting early Christmas morning, when Christmas falls on a Monday, and on Easter Monday, but they think that they should be allowed New Year's morning when New Year's Day comes on a Monday.

Statements to this effect were made by the theatre amusement men when they appeared before Ald. Gardner's committee on the theatre closing by-law, recently.

Mrs. Alexander, Dearly Beloved Mother of Harry and Jack Alexander, Well-known Exhibitors in Toronto, Passes Away